

WOODWORDS ON THE BRANDYWINE

Woodworkers Guild of Delaware

May, 2005

April 20, 2005 Meeting Highlights:

The theme of the meeting was finish repair techniques and products. Special guests Peg Harshaw and her husband Ed conduct a Mohawk Finishing Products distributorship in nearby Oxford, PA (800-207-8123; www.touchupsupplies.com). Peg demonstrated many of the techniques and tools of touchup finishing, including color matching systems. Using primarily a butane fired heated knife she demonstrated the use of Easy Flo sticks (a modern successor to shellac sticks), crayons, markers, edge sticks and other products to make visually perfect repairs to various kinds of dings and blemishes afflicting a variety of finishes – including blending grainwork. Peg's presentation was an impressive sampling, drawn from the three day workshops that she periodically offers. Our thanks to Peg and Ed for an instructive presentation.

Steve Reynolds demonstrated use of a crank operated sharpening wheel to refurbish a plane. Visitor Bob Norty reported that many of Prew Savoy's tools are being offered on E-Bay. John Smock reported that he has a lead to a large stash of old Walnut. Our thanks to them all.

John Baker won the raffle prize, a set of 28 brad point high speed steel drill bits, from 5/64" to 1/2".

May 18, 2005 Meeting Agenda:

The Guild will elect its 2005-06 Board at the May 18 meeting. It currently appears that the following members will be nominated: President: John Dunbar, Vice President: Don Ransom, Treasurer: Richard Libera, Second Treasurer: John Baker, Secretary: **Volunteer Needed**, Newsletter Editor: Paul Welsh, Librarian: **Volunteer Needed**, Hardware Librarian: Jerry Sheehan, Raffle Manager: Chuck Skelley, Program Committee: Tony Albano, Roger Earley, Vincent Passalacqua, Mike Reese and David Sokolowski. **There is room on the program committee for others to help.** Please consider volunteering. The tasks are satisfying and not overly demanding, and by serving on the Board you can help to improve our Guild. Call John Dunbar (302-376-1927) or Rich Libera (302-368-8035).

The theme of the meeting will be sharpening methods; bring and demonstrate your sharpening tools and jigs.

Entries for the Guild's contest for the best shop-built tool chest or cabinet will be presented and judged; winning entries will be awarded handsome ribbons and great prestige. But, don't be bashful – the showpieces may get the ribbons, but the less elegant items often contain useful ideas that are well worth sharing. In

that spirit your editor plans to enter something that is truly crude but versatile and useful, and the Board urges others to do the same.

As always, please bring "show and tell" items. Those who do will receive two FREE raffle tickets. This month's raffle prize will be a four piece Starrett combination square set, said to equal the excellent set owned and prized by Richard Libera.

June Meeting at Woodcraft:

The Guild will meet at 7:00 pm Wednesday June 15 at the impressively stocked and equipped Woodcraft store on Northbound Route 13 just below the airport and Rte 273. Many thanks to Woodcraft and Manager Mike Okner for hosting.

August Board Meeting:

The new Board will meet at 7:00 pm Wednesday August 17 to plan the September Guild meeting, at Paul Welsh's house, 319 Cox Road. That's south of Hockessin on the corner of Cox and North Star Roads at the entrance to Lambeth Riding, about 1/4 mile south of Little Baltimore Road.

Annual Picnic:

The picnic is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 1.

Tools and Equipment for Sale:

Dick Merrill (302-994-0390) offers a portable miter saw station with foldaway extension wings and a stop system, which he built using plans from Woodsmith magazine. You may recall that Dick presented this handsome and precise accessory at the February 16 Guild meeting.

Benefactors of the Guild:

Several merchants, suppliers and restaurants have been generous in supporting the Guild; please keep these friends in mind when you make purchases: Woodcraft, Highland Hardware, Lee Valley and Veritas, Café Gelato, Fair Hill Inn, Eagle Diner and Giordano's of Kennett Square.

Sawdust Recycling Opportunity:

Many thanks to the Guild members who have helped The Woodshop at Pendle Hill by contributing sawdust, for use in firing ceramics. The Woodshop is a good cause, with an ongoing need for more sawdust. Please bring sawdust to Hans Francke at the next Guild meeting (preferably in large garbage bags) or call him at 302-475-9157.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance forward at 3/27/05	2242.65
April Raffle Income	50.00+
Sale of Hats & T-shirts	20.00+
Dues Income	35.00+
April Newsletter	118.96-
Stamps, cards, envelopes, etc.	7.25-
Ending Balance at 4/26/05	2221.49

By: Richard Libera, Treasurer

Editorial:* The Price of Lumber:

Our government has been purposefully taxing lumber to keep the price up. The idea is to protect us from the menace of inexpensive Canadian lumber, and make us instead buy from higher priced U.S. sources -- who consider us their own lawful prey, and who consider it the U.S. government's business to see that we pay the prices they impose. So, in violation of the NAFTA treaty, the U.S. has been levying an additional 22% tariff on Canadian softwood. The accountable politicians are our U.S. Senators and Representatives. We can't vote out the Commerce Department bureaucrats directly involved, but it's our Congressfolk who enact the laws that turn price-boosting bureaucrats loose on us. It is they who bear, on election day, the accountability for what the bureaucrats do. See March 23, 2005 Wall Street Journal, p. A14.

2005 Meeting Schedule:

Guild meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month. During the school year, September through May, we normally meet in the Carpenter Shop at Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Glasgow, DE from 7:00 pm to about 9:00 pm. The school entrance is on **business** 896 (Glasgow Avenue, old 896) south of Rte. 40, and the shop is in the rear by the dust collection system. Park in the side lot near the shop; **violators of parking rules may be towed.** The Guild often has a June meeting at a different location, and normally does not meet in July and August. Board Meetings are monthly, and are open to all Guild members. The Board ordinarily meets immediately after each Guild meeting.

*Editorials are an occasional feature. Views stated are those of your editor, and not necessarily those of others on the Board or in the Guild.

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Woodworkers Guild of Delaware
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WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS FOR 2004-05

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